CLAIMS

1. An apparatus comprising:

at least one processor;

a memory coupled to the at least one processor;

a web server application residing in the memory and executed by the at least one processor, the web server application rendering specified web pages to web browsers at the web browsers' request;

a first web page residing in the memory that includes a form into which a user may enter information and a mechanism for the user to submit the entered information to the web server application;

an intermediate web page residing in the memory;

a next web page residing in the memory;

wherein the web server application renders the first web page to a browser for the user to enter the information, and when the user submits the entered information to the web server application, the web server application receives the entered information, renders the intermediate page for a predetermined period of time, and then automatically renders the next web page when the predetermined period of time expires.

2. The apparatus of claim 1 wherein if the user reloads the next web page the entered information is not re-submitted to the web server application.

3. The apparatus of claim 1 wherein the intermediate web page specifies the predetermined period of time.

4. A method for a web server to render web pages to a user, the method comprising the steps of:

(A) rendering to a user a first web page that includes a form into which the user may enter information and a mechanism for the user to submit the entered information to the web server;

(B) when the user submits the entered information to the web server, the web server performs the steps of:

(B1) receiving the entered information;

(B2) rendering an intermediate web page for a predetermined period of time; and

(B3) automatically rendering a next web page when the predetermined period of time expires.

5. The method of claim 4 further comprising the step of not resubmitting the entered information when the user clicks on a reload or refresh button in a web browser that is displaying the next web page.

6. The method of claim 4 wherein the intermediate web page specifies the predetermined period of time.
